Prayer of the Church Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity 24 September 2023

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, Father of all, we bow before You in all confidence and beg You: strengthen us by Your Spirit, ground us in Your love and fill up what we lack out of Your own abundance. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Great Physician, lend Your own power to the works of mercy done in the name of Your Son, that they may increase faith in the words Your servants speak. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Faithful Father, when loss and heartache invade our homes and tempt us to doubt Your divine care, hear our cries and renew our faith and life in You. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of life and death, You have given all things into the hands of Your Son. Inspire those who bear the sword in His stead to do so in faithfulness and love for their fellow man. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, You lead us, as St. Paul before us, through many tribulations to know the fullness of Your love. Strengthen all who suffer, that they may praise You for Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the harvest, grant that in true faith we may worthily go to Your altar to receive the very body and the true blood that Your Son has given for our redemption. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of hosts, Your saints in heaven now know as they are known and comprehend the fullness of Your love in Christ. Conduct our way through this fallen world to join them in Your heavenly presence. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **Amen.**